

[illegible]

α -galactosidases from hyperthermophilic sources are useful in treating animal feed by hydrolyzing the galactose oligosaccharides present in animal feeds. α -galactosidases from *Thermotoga maritima* are useful in hydrolyzing raffinose, stachyose and verbascose, indigestible oligosaccharides commonly found in animal feed compositions. The ability to use these enzymes at high temperatures, namely those that would normally be encountered in industrial processes typically associated with animal feed formulation or processing, is advantageous for adding nutritive value to animal feed and flexibility in processing. Hyperthermophilic α -galactosidases are also useful as food additives for human food.